RNA For a Better Life in the Heights

November 2000

RIVERVIEW Neighborhood Association

232 Ogden Avenue • Jersey City, NJ 07307 • 201 798 0493

RNA IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY POLITICAL PARTY, ORGANIZATION or ELECTED OFFICIAL

HARBOR VIEW HOLIDAY PARTY

RNA's annual fall party for the residents of **Harbor View Health Care** Facility will take place on Friday, November 17th, at 1:30 PM. This event is RNA's way of thanking these seniors for allowing us to use their home for our monthly meetings during the year. As usual, there will be live musical entertainment. Sugar-free cake and cookies and apple cider will be served. Gift baskets will be given to the seniors.

To make this event a big success, we are looking for volunteers to help set-up, entertain the residents and bake or buy the refreshments. This year we are also looking for donations of socks, handkerchiefs, lotions or shampoos (in plastic bottles) and plush animals or rag dolls for the gift baskets.

However, the most appreciative gift is to spend time talking and listening to these marvelous people. It does wonders to just see their eyes light up when someone spends some quality time with them. They also love to have young children visit and talk to them.

All cakes and cookies should be delivered to the Harbor View Health Care Facility located at the corner of Ogden and Franklin on November 17th. Please use disposable pans or plates. If interested in volunteering, please call Valerie or Jack Rea at 653-6916 or speak to them at the November meeting.

FALL DUMPSTER CLEAN-UP

RNA will schedule its bi-annual neighborhood clean-up during the third weekend of November. As usual, the Incinerator Authority will provide two bulk dumpsters to be used by local residents to deposit their large garbage and debris. This season, the dumpsters will be located on Cuneo Place and South Street between Palisade and Ogden Avenues from Friday, November 17th to Sunday, November 19th. This service is free to all residents. The following dumpster rules must be observed:

- only residential garbage allowed
- NO CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL,
- dumpsters must be packed efficiently to maximize space,
- do not overfill dumpster, and
- NO garbage outside of dumpster.

Note: RNA did not organize its annual fall Park clean-up. However, there will be a spring clean-up of both of our neighborhood parks: Riverview-Fisk and Janet Moore next year.

RNA's ANNUAL FOOD & TOY DRIVE
See Page 4

Holland Street

As we go to press, the City is in the process of organizing a public meeting for our community to discuss this issue. Details will be distributed throughout the neighborhood as soon as they are scheduled.

At RNA's October meeting, the Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy announced their campaign to preserve the City's remaining cobblestone roads, including our local Holland Street. There was a slide presentation and group discussion concerning this issue. *For further details see the Meeting Minutes in this issue of the newsletter.*

After the October meeting, the Executive committee decided to continue the current discussion about Holland Street at the November meeting - primarily to reconsider RNA's current position in support of the City's renovation plan. [In January, 1999, RNA held two public meetings, on the 12 and 27th, to discuss this issue. The membership voted to reopen the road to vehicular traffic in a one-way westward direction. RNA has worked with the City's Engineering Department to design this project.]

Holland Street is a winding road on the Palisade cliffs located north of Riverview-Fisk Park between Paterson Plank Road and Palisade Avenue. It has been officially closed for approximately ten years. During that time the City has in effect abandoned the road, which in turn attracted illegal dumping and criminal activities to the area. At present, the City is receiving construction bids to renovate the road for vehicular traffic. The renovation includes excavation and removal of the existing cobblestone roadway including curbs and sidewalks, construction of concrete curbs and concrete and cobblestone sidewalks, bituminous and

continued on page 4

Mayor Bret Schundler attended the Conservancy's Press Conference at Holland Street on Oct. 28th. *Photo: Leon Yost*

MEETING MINUTES: October 2000

POLICE: The meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM. The first speaker was **Lieut. Kilduff** of the NTF. He announced the creation of an undercover narcotics operation with the County Prosecutor's Office. He stated that the NTF planned to do a sweep of juveniles to avoid any vandalism before Halloween. He described **Deputy Chief Behrens'** campaign against public drinking and loud music. He also updated the meeting on the success of the North Precinct's Crime Suppression Unit that focused on the crimes of burglary and narcotic distribution during both daytime and evening hours.

Along with **Officer Larson Brown**, Lieut. Kilduff fielded questions from the membership, including the enforcement of the 10:30 curfew for juveniles. They remained to talk to several people privately about individual problems in the neighborhood.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT: **NID Manager Ron Clemente** gave an update on several problems that he was currently working on. A summons was finally issued to 7 Hobson Street for maintaining an unclean front yard with flea market items. **Herb Sylvestre**, a zoning official was also requested to make an inspection of this property. A summons was issued to 235 New York Avenue, an abandoned property on the SW corner of the Griffith Street intersection for not keeping the property clean. Finally Mr. Clemente ordered an environmental inspection of the body shop at 33 Griffith Street for proper ventilation and operating hours of its painting booth. Mr. Sylvestre was also requested to look into the problem of auto repairs on the street.

A request was made that Mr. Clemente request that the newly-opened Mountain Road be placed on the Incinerator Authority's weekly street cleaning schedule and that it be included in the police daily car patrols. Another request was made that 410 Palisade Avenue be checked to insure that it had been properly boarded up to prevent squatters.

Mr. Clemente's working hours for the fall and winter season will be 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. He can be reached by voice mail at **547-4974, extension 8015.**

Kevin Sluka, Director of Public Works attended the meeting in response to complaints from Palisade Avenue property owners concerning the sidewalk construction. Many owners felt that there was not enough notice given about the time and how the work would affect their properties. Mr. Sluka stated that letters had been sent to property owners but that absentee landlords may not have notified their tenants of the project. He confirmed that there was a City inspector at the work site during the daytime and that complaints could be made to office of the **City Engineer** at **547-4411**.

He urged property owners to remove any unused underground oil tanks. He stated that the City's contractor will frame out new cellar doors at an additional cost. There was a complaint that the construction crews damaged some of the basements that extended under the sidewalk, causing water to leak into the property. Kevin assured residents that all these problems could be taken care of as long as he was made aware of them. Another complaint was made concerning the lack of security at one of the staging sites located at the corner of South Street and New York Avenue.

He announced that the milling of the street surface on Palisade Avenue in preparation for the repaving would start to occur on October 19th. New garbage cans would be installed along the Avenue once the new sidewalks were completed. He was still seeking input from the residents concerning this project and could be reached at his office at **547-4400**. *In response to a suggestion made at the meeting, the City has started to post Notices on street poles in English and Spanish announcing in advance the sidewalk construction.*

Kevin also discussed several other local issues in our neighborhood. A complaint was made about the lack of City maintenance along the New York Avenue extension, including overgrown weeds, non-working street lights and inadequate street sweeping. In response to the problem of cars speeding on our local streets, Kevin announced that the City was experimenting with rumble strips on Wegman Place.

Kevin told the membership that there would not be enough money in next year's budget to renovate the eastern half of Riverview-Fisk Park. The State allowed the City to bond for only $8 million for capital appropriations - less than half of their original $18 million request. This money would be applied toward other municipal projects, including the new fire facility on Palisade and Congress Street. He said that there were 63 municipal parks and that some needed more work than others, including Lafayette and Grundy Parks. He discussed the availability of funding from the State's Open Space Initiative and Green Acres for the Park's renovation.

Deputy Chief of Police Peter Behrens made an unexpected visit to the meeting to update the membership about his efforts in the North District. He announced that the recently established Crime Suppression Unit had made 40 arrests of which 17 of those arrested were responsible for 135 burglaries in the Heights. He stated that this Unit also made 5 arrest for stolen autos working with the police of North Bergen and Union City. The most popular vehicles for this crime seem to be Jeeps, Honda Civics and Toyota Camreys.

The Chief also discussed his Quality of Life (QOL) campaign in which his officers have issued 52 summons since September. He pledged zero tolerance for QOL violations especially dogs littering or without leashes, public drinking and loud music. In fact, he stated that an individual was recently arrested in Janet Moore Park when issued an QOL summons because he was found to have an outstanding warrant for a previous QOL violation.

Because of the low prioritizing of QOL complaints made to the radio room, the Chief recommended that neighborhood meetings were a good place for the police to learn about these chronic neighborhood problems. He also announced that he was enforcing the law against panhandling on Central Avenue and Paterson Plank Road. The Chief introduced his second in command, **Lieut. Kiernan** to the membership.

HOLLAND STREET: **John Gomez** and **Leon Yost** of the **Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy** announced their campaign to preserve the remaining cobblestone streets in Jersey City, which included Holland Street in our neighborhood. Gomez stated that of the five existing streets, this cliff road was the jewel of Jersey City because of its unique location, condition and the type of cobblestones. There was a slide presentation showing current and past pictures of Holland Street and the other cobblestone streets.

John discussed several alternatives for this road, including making it into a pedestrian walkway, an extension of Riverview-Fisk Park or the current City plan to renovate it into a vehicular roadway. Currently the City is seeking bids for this renovation which would include removing the cobblestones, paving a new street surface and creating cobblestone walkways. Gomez suggested that if the City is set on renovating the road, the cobblestones should not be removed but instead covered over with a layer of gravel and paved over for possible future reclamation.

At this point, **Kevin Sluka** of the **DPW** joined the discussion and stated that the State would not allow the existing road to be reopened as a public thoroughfare because the cobblestone surface is considered unsafe for vehicular use. Sluka stated that the exist-

continued on page 4

COMMUNITYUPDATE

Referendum Petition: On October 23rd, Robert Bryne, the City Clerk of Jersey City verified 2,437 of the 3,343 signatures of registered voters that were submitted as part of the Referendum Petition drive protesting the Millennium Towers 20 Year Tax Abatement. By state statute, a minimum of 2472 signatures are required for a petition to be certified that would obligate the City to either repeal the abatement or hold a special referendum election. Therefore, only 35 additional signatures of registered voters were needed to accomplish this goal.

On November 1st, the Committee of Petitioners and their supporters amended their petition by submitting an additional 681 signatures of registered voters - almost 20 times the number of required signatures. The Clerk will then examine these new petitions. In all probability, he will certify the petition drive as successful.

The Clerk must then present the certified petition to the City Council who must decide whether or not they will repeal this 20 year tax abatement for the Millennium Towers project. If they do not repeal the abatement, the City must organize a special referendum election in which the registered voters of Jersey City will to approve or disapprove this measure.

The state referendum process is a powerful tool that gives citizens the opportunity to reject an unpopular law directly through the voting process. It is considered one of the purest expressions of democracy available.

The petition organizers believe that this petition will have a two-fold purpose: to stop the Millennium Towers abatement and to force the City to re-evaluate its policy of granting tax abatements to developers. It is hoped that this long term goal will provide tax relief to the taxpayers of Jersey City and help restore City and County services.

This abatement would provide a 20 year tax exemption for the controversial Millennium Towers project which will consist of two 41-story towers containing 523 luxury housing units and 148,298 square feet of retail and restaurant space to be bought on the Jersey City-Hoboken border. Both the City of Hoboken and RNA along with the Coalition for a Better Waterfront have filed two lawsuits against the City of Jersey City to stop this project.

On Monday, October 31st, another referendum petition was submitted to the City Clerk. This second petition was organized to protest the City Council's recent amendment to the rent control ordinance. If both petitions are certified and the City Council refuses to repeal them, a special referendum election will be scheduled early next year allowing the registered voters to decide these two contentious issues.

122-124 Ogden Avenue:

The proposal for this property will be heard by the Board of Adjustment on Thursday, November 16th. It was adjourned from its original hearing date of October 26th. The project will consist of a four story structure housing seven apartments and an underground garage. The project needs seven variances from the zoning requirements, including density, lot coverage, lot width, lot area, floor area ratio and rear and side setbacks.

RNA in support of the local residents, has voted to oppose this project. It is recommending instead the construction of townhouses or two-family houses at this site. A representative from RNA will make a formal statement at the November 16th meeting. The City Planning Department has also recommended that the Board deny the variance for this project.

Liberty State Park: Friends of Liberty State Park (FLSP) is organizing a campaign to prevent the City of Jersey City and the Park's Development Corporation from approving a privatization plan to construct a commercial Waterpark facility in the Park. This plan, which anticipates over 4000 swimmers, would intrude on the Park's remaining interior natural area of green open space and potentially create traffic jams every weekend during the summer. There are already plans for a privately-owned Sports Complex which is expecting upward of 3 million annual visitors within five year and a doubling of the existing Liberty Science Center. The Waterpark proposal, along with the existing Circle Line ferries and the Park's various unstructured recreational activities, would be one major attraction too many.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has not scheduled a date for the Public Meeting to discuss this proposal and the Master Plan for the Park. In the meantime, the FLSP is urging all concerned citizens to: write a letter to your local newspaper, write to Assistant Commissioner Cari Wild at the NJDEP, P.O. Box 404, Trenton, N.J. 08625. or e-mail Governor Christine Whitman at: www.state.nj.us/governor/contact.htm.

FLSP is a nonprofit organization and all contributions are tax deductible. Membership contributions will support the group's work to improve, beautify and advocate for the public access to and enjoyment of Liberty State Park. For more information, contact the FLSP at: P.O. Box 3407, Jersey City, N.J. 07302 or visit the Internet site: www.hudson2000.com.

Sam Pesin, President of FLSP

Homecoming Weekend

One of the more interesting events of

On October 3rd, the Committee of Petitioners and their supporters held a press conference outside of City Hall. **Photo: Dan D'Errico**

Meeting Minutes

continued from page 2

ing state transportation funding of approximately $175,000.00 would not be available to preserve the existing road. He stated that he had received several calls and e-mails concerning this issue and was looking into the possibility of delaying the awarding of a contract for this project until he and the local councilpersons discussed the matter.

Leon Yost advised against removing the cobblestones and relocating them to another site because that would lose the historic integrity of the "waterfall effect" of the settled stones in the road. Joan Earls, a property owner living adjacent to and above the road agreed that the cobblestones should be preserved but wanted the road to be reopened to stop the chronic problems of illegal dumping and vandalism that have plagued the area for many years. Doris Brown was concerned that the existing funding would not be adequate to properly renovate the road. Beverly Brown agreed that the road should be made into a extension of the Park. Two new members, John and Liza, described their experiences in another city that regretted the loss of historic sites.

Vito Brunetti, reminded the group that RNA, through its Planning and Development Committee, had discussed this issue last year and the group as a whole, voted to support the City's plan to renovate the road. He stated that a vote to support the Conservancy's position was premature at the October meeting, but that it would be brought up again at the next meeting for further discussion.

The meeting was closed at 9:45 PM.

Maria Tuzzo, Secretary

Holland Street

continued from page 1

concrete pavement, ornamental tubular steel picket fencing, green bituminous treated stone slope protection, traffic striping and signs and repairs to masonry stone retaining walls and concrete stairs.

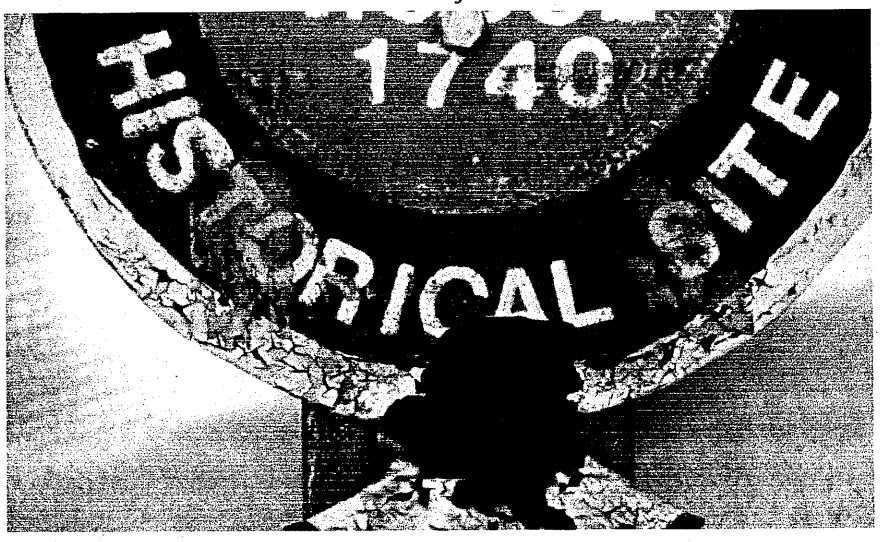
RNA has always been committed to preserving our local heritage. However, up to this time, the City has been unable to maintain these areas and prevent illegal dumping and criminal activity. With any reconsideration of the future of Holland Street, it is necessary to obtain the City's commitment to protect and maintain these areas from abandonment or vandalism.

For further discussion about this issue, see two opinions in the **Letters to the Editor** column of this newsletter.

Where in the Heights?

Local resident and photographer Dan D'Errico knows. Do you?

The answer will be found on the Community Bulletin Board in Riverview-Fisk Park at the corner of Palisade Avenue and Bower Street.



FOOD & TOY DRIVE

It is that time of year again! RNA is sponsoring its annual Food and Toy Drive. All donations will be given to the less fortunate people living in our community during the holiday season. At the November meeting, a vote will be taken to give this year's gifts of food to Saint Lucy's Soup Kitchen and the toys to the Hudson Cradle. (Traditionally, RNA donates the food and toys to the local Salvation Army for distribution.) Only dry and canned food products will be accepted. New or used toys (in good working condition) are also welcome. Please bring your gifts of food and toys to the next two RNA meetings in November and December. You can also make a monetary donation.

The deadline for donations - either gifts or money - is December 15th. You can drop off your contributions during the week or receive more information by calling Maria Tuzzo at 659-2245.

Community Updates

continued from page 3

of the Homecoming weekend of October 20 - 22nd was the tour and film presentation at the Loew's Jersey Theatre. The amount and quality of work completed by the volunteers in this renovation project is truly inspiring. Screening the film "That's Entertainment" in the main theatre was a great experience. For more information about this landmark or to learn how to volunteer in the ongoing restoration, contact the Friends of the Loew's at (201) 798-6055, write to P.O. Box 3779, Jersey City, New Jersey. 07303 or visit the website: www.loewsjersey.org.

The second event was a downtown exhibit entitled "Heights 11 Artists". The show presented works from talented neighbors and friends in our community, including Greg Baumgart, Orlando Cuevas, Allison Fontana, Michael Fontana, Rick Leon, Gail Nicholson, Kit Sailer, Pam Shaw, Clif Steinbring, Laurinda Stockwell and Alison Weld. Several people have already commented that next year an effort should be made to exhibit these and other local artists in our own neighborhood. Maybe it is time to revive the concept of a Riverview Arts District, which was first suggested by Tom Hart as Councilman in the mid-eighties.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS:

Look Good, Feel Good :

On Monday, November 13th, Christ Hospital will hold a *Look Good, Feel Good* program at 1:00 PM in the ground floor staff room. The program is designed to help women gain control over changes in their physical appearances caused by chemotherapy and radiation treatments. Participants will also learn how to apply make-up, choose and style a wig, and use scarves and turbans. Women who participate in the program will be given complimentary cosmetic kits, and participate in a demonstration on the care and styling of wigs. There is no charge for the program, but pre-registration is required by November 8th. Please call 795-8030 for more information.

On Friday, December 1st, the Hospital will sponsor a special fundraising breakfast at Puccini's Restaurant for the *Look Good, Feel Good* program. Tickets are $25.00. For more information, call 795-8619.

EDITORIAL

It is very commendable that members of our community are organizing petition drives, saving cobblestone roads, fighting large scale developments, lobbying to protect our Palisade cliffs and improving our community in general. However, sometimes it is necessary to stop, look around and maintain what we already have. The community garden in Riverview-Fisk Park is a good example of how people volunteer to maintain and improve a piece of our neighborhood on a regular basis. But just outside of the garden's fences, sometimes is a picture of neglect or dare I say, non-interest. For example, approximately one month ago, some individual vandalized the Park pavilion by spraying-painting silver graffiti on its walls and columns. The graffiti remained for all to see until some hapless soul tired of seeing the ugly display, painted it over with red paint. (I bet there must be at least 20 layers of paint on that pavilion.) Is it not the job of the City to maintain our public facilities? Yes it is! But in reality, unless the residents call up the City to fix something broken or do it themselves, it never seems to get fixed.

Another example, is a light pole just north of the pavilion with three street lamps that have not worked for over two months. As this is being written, the lamps are still out and that area of the Park is in darkness. (By the way, PSE&G's repair number is now 1-800-436-PSEG (7734) - if someone wants to call in the problem). Other problems that are visible in our neighborhood are the ubiquitous shopping carts that end up in front of our properties in the middle of the night. Slowly but surely, they are edged over to the next property until they end up at the corner of the block. As anyone ever thought that It would be really neighborly to just return the cart to the supermarket where it was taken?

It is the small things that sometimes make a difference in a neighborhood. Try it sometime and see if your neighbors don't notice the difference?

letters to the editor

The following two letters concern the preservation of Holland Street.

Many of us in the Heights are concerned about the fate of historic Holland Street just north of Riverview-Fisk Park. The City has already received bids to have it repaved. Now that we can see the results of paving Mountain Road not far to the south, practical but utterly charmless, the matter of saving Holland Street has become even more important and urgent.

According to John Gomez of the Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy, Holland Street is a peerless example of a cobbled road, unique in its patterning and type of stone. Only five cobbled roads remain in Jersey City and Holland Street is the jewel among them.

An increasing number of residents want the street closed to vehicular traffic, cleaned up, cared for and converted for pedestrian use only. We could certainly use a well-groomed walkway to and from Paterson Plank Road. Holland Street is in desperate need of attention and in its present state a magnet for refuse and worse. But surely paving over an irreplaceable piece of the past is not the only solution.

Though the bidding process has gone ahead, we are still hoping that alternatives can be found. With enough time, obtaining an historic designation for Holland Street is a real possibility. With an historic designation, funding can be had for its restoration and maintenance. Many would like to see it as an adjunct to the park itself, with a bike path, a bench or two and landscaped borders.

To date the Heights has not been a preservationist preserve. But attitudes are changing. A reverence for the area's history is strong in many of us. As development creeps west, we ardently want to save the character of the place, to ensure that the Heights doesn't become a faceless anywhere.

There are issues, of course, like safety, maintenance and the value of another stretch off of Paterson Plank Road. Though others may disagree, we feel they can be dealt with. At the very least we want the opportunity to try. We look at Mountain Road, newly paved, and it is still plagued with problems. In just a few weeks the debris accumulated there is appalling. Paving is no panacea for crime and ugliness.

Holland Street preserved would be a treasure, it would attract the attention of any priceless antiquity, and it would distinguish the community. It would be a credit to everyone involved in its salvation. It's hard to imagine a neighborhood that wouldn't be eager for such a distinction.

For many, the cobblestones of Holland Street are as much a part of the landscape as the Palisades themselves, which, sadly, are also threatened. If we do not value our own cultural heritage, if we do not value our own native geography, the question is, what do we value?

Please help us save Holland Street.

Deborah Klein
Ogden Avenue

The Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy supports turning Holland Street into a pedestrian walkway. We perceive the Street to be a logical extension of Riverview Park. It could be beautifully landscaped, properly lit, proudly restored, regularly maintained, and identified with bronze signage. The Heights would be able to showcase Holland Street as Hudson County's most unique cobblestone carriage road. With the planned Light Rail line being constructed at the foot of the Palisades, the Heights is set to become an important tourist destination with its unique historic attractions. A "Palisades Loop" (River View Park to Mountain Road to Paterson Plank Road to Holland Street to Riverview Park, with side visits to The Van Vorst House and Pohlmann's Hall) would make one of the most attractive walking tours in Jersey City. No other neighborhood possesses a landmark like Holland Street, and many would be proud to have it.

The Conservancy is aware that some would like to see Holland Street re-opened to vehicular traffic. We are concerned that asphalt surfacing would be required on this narrow road, taking away its most valuable historic feature. Further, the smooth surface could attract young riders on scooters who might be tempted to coast down the long straightaway toward Paterson Plank Road.

If paving is to be done, the Conservancy asks that the cobbles remain in place under the asphalt, so that a future generation would have the option to restore the road's unique original surface.

Funding is in place and bids have been received by the City (October 17) to excavate and pave Holland Street and to remove the cobbles for storage at Public Works. Unfortunately, the stones will lose their value when removed from their unique setting. It would be impossible (and illogical in our view) to reassemble them the same way at a new location. The Conservancy objects to removal of the stones from the site because this would be an irreversible loss of valued history.

There is no guarantee that the allocated funds can be reassigned from the above plan which was put out to bid. However, the Conservancy is committed to pursuing State and National Registry for Holland Street. This would make it eligible for restoration funds from other sources.

Leon Yost
Jersey City Landmark Conservancy

BULLETIN BOARD

In memory of:

During the month of October, a friend and neighbor Joseph Lemanski passed away after a long illness. Joe was a familiar face to all his neighbors on Ogden Avenue between Franklin and Griffith Streets. He worked in the supermarket on Central Avenue during its several changes in ownership. We wish his family well during this time of loss.

This is a small tribute to Joseph Lemanski. About the same time every morning, I would pass by and Joe would be sitting in his car waiting for his son, Joseph. Joe and I would exchange small talk about the weather and current events in the neighborhood. He would ask "how's the pooch?" Meaning my dog, not me. I pass by now and I do miss him sitting there. Wherever he is, I hope he knows he is sadly missed. *Jack Rea*

LEAF COLLECTION

The piles of fall leaves are beginning to gather in each of our front or back yards. Do not throw the leaves in your regular trash. Instead put them in brown biodegradable bags which will be collected during the next two months in order to redistribute as mulch to the community gardens throughout the City. Leaf collection will take place on the following Thursdays along with the regular garbage pick-up: November 16 and 30 and December 14.

Free bags are available from local neighbors: Maria Tuzzo at 170 Ogden Avenue or Jack Rea at 220 Ogden Ave. Bags can also be picked-up at 325 Palisade Avenue or at the Incinerator Authority facility on Route 440. For more information, call 432-4645.

Note: You can use the leaves in your own flower or vegetable garden as a natural cover for your perennial plants or by placing in a mulching container for next year.

Harbor View Annual Holiday Bazaar

On Sunday, November 26th, the Harbor View Health Care Facility will hold its annual Holiday Bazaar from 10 AM to 4 PM. Vendor tables are available for $20.00. Donations will be collected for the Resident Recreation Fund Raffle. The facility is located at the corner of Ogden Avenue and Franklin Street. For more information, call Aimee Montgomery Wilson at 963-1800.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

RNA will finalize its plans for our winter festivities at the next meeting. All members, neighbors and friends interested in participating in the Fall Clean-up, Harbor View Holiday Party, Food and Toy Drive, Christmas Carolling, and RNA's own Holiday Party should come to the next meeting on November 14th.

SIERRA CLUB MEMBERSHIP

With all this recent activity in our community to protect the Palisade cliffs, to fight large-scale development and preserve our community, it would be helpful to enlist the backing of reputable environmental organizations. One such group is the Sierra Club. There is a Hudson County Group that is currently in the process of being reorganized. It is chaired by Steve Lanset, a local organizer who works with HART and recently helped collect signatures for the referendum petition. For more information, Steve can be contacted at (201) 860-9870 or **slanset@hotmail.com.**

Membership dues, which are $25.00 for the first year and then $40.00 for the following years, include a subscription to the organization's magazine and the Local Chapter newsletter. Contributions, gifts and membership dues are not tax deductible; they support the Sierra Club's citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts.

POLICEBEAT

Residents should contact their **Neighborhood Task Force** (NTF) Police Officers if they have a problem, a safety concern or knowledge of criminal activity through the North District's Community Service voice mail at **547-5719** or through the front desk at **547-5350**. When leaving a message, include your name, telephone number, street address, the nature of the problem and the date and time of the message. For emergencies, call **547-5477** or **911.**

In addition, anyone with information about illegal drug use and/or drug dealing, should contact the JCPD Narcotics Unit at **547-5714** or **547-6911**. All calls will be strictly confidential.

CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR NEWSLETTER

Tell us how you feel about the quality of life on your block or in your neighborhood. Have your voice heard! Send all articles, comments and/or recipes to 232 Ogden Ave. *The next deadline is Friday,* **November 24th.**

SUPPORT

RNA'S EFFORT TO FIGHT CITY HALL

Help pay for RNA's legal bills by making a tax-deductible donation. RNA is presently involved in several important community projects to protect our quality of life. Along with the Coalition for a Better Waterfront, it has filed a lawsuit against the City of Jersey City to reverse the zoning amendments for the Millennium Towers project. RNA is also involved in the referendum petition effort to repeal the 20 year tax abatement for the Millennium Towers development. It is also part of a community wide coalition to lobby the City to pass a Steep Slope ordinance to protect the Palisade cliffs.

To win these campaigns, we have had to hire a top flight attorney and several planners. Support our efforts by making your checks payable to RNA, 232 Ogden Avenue, Jersey City, New Jersey, 07307. Identify the donations by writing "MTP" on the check. All donations are tax-deductible.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

for upcoming activities

RNA needs Volunteers to help with publicity, website design, petitioning, leaflets, fundraising, newsletter writing, drafting plans, rallies, research, phone trees and much more. We need your ideas, skills and time.

Write letters to your local newspapers and elected officials to air your views about these issues. Attend and speak out at City Council meetings. Come to our monthly meetings and participate in our committees.

Spread the Word! Alert your friends and neighbors about the changes facing our City. Urge them to get involved.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

EDITOR: Vito Brunetti
ASSISTANT EDITORS: Pam Shaw, Wayne Steinbring
CONTRIBUTORS: Stephen Carr, Gina Cesari, Kevin Mahony, Patrick Moore, Jack Rea, Madeline Rea, Valerie Rea, Maria Tuzzo
PHOTOGRAPHY: Dan D'errico
CIRCULATION: Beth D'errico, Jack Rea, Maria Tuzzo

RNA SPONSORS

Telephone (201) 864-7450 800-772-7345
Fax (201) 653-3616 (305) 883-3359

A & P ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

Electrical, Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Contractors

338 PALISADE AVENUE
JERSEY CITY, N J. 07307

PEDRO ARANA
President

NJ State Lic. #4692
FL State Lic. #EC0001172

M. SASSO
201-420-7240

DRESSMAKER

Maria's
Custom Dressmaking
Drapery, Uniforms, Alterations

114 Bower's Street Jersey City, N.J. 07307

---

since 1960

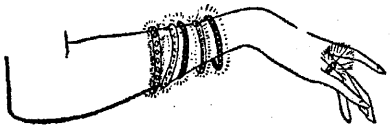
SDS Bicycle Shop

SALES REPAIRS ACCESSORIES

351 Palisade Ave
Jersey City, NJ 07307
201-656-5472
201-656-1321 Fax

674 Anderson Ave
Cliffside Park, NJ 07010
201-941-4551
www.sdsbikes.com

Tel. 659-1263 *Sam Koralja, Prop.*



Sam's Jewelers

335 PALISADE AVENUE
JERSEY CITY, N. J.

Phone - 201-659-4441
Fax - 201-659-4440

WERNER BROS., INC.

PLUMBING - HEATING - SEWER CLEANING - CHIMNEY REPAIRS
RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL
INSTALLATIONS - ALTERATIONS -REPAIRS
STATE LICENSE #6686
Established 1890

63 IRVING STREET
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07307

201-659-2667 **FAX (201) 659-9274**

Signs & Graphics, Inc.
Swing-Frame Display, Inc.

DESIGNING, FABRICATING & INSTALLING
OF ALL KINDS OF SIGNAGE

ERIC MORTIMER

330 PALISADE AVENUE
Jersey City, New Jersey 07307

Palisade Lumber & Supply Co.
432 Palisade Ave.
Jersey City, NJ 07307
Phone: (201) 656-4400
Fax: (201) 653-6890

ACE

J.A.B. Property Management, Inc.

Management • Investment • Construction

20 Chestnut Street, Suite 4
Tenafly, New Jersey 07670

Tel: (201) 816-9376
Fax: (201) 816-3911

(IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ADVERTSING IN THE RNA NEWSLETTER, PLEASE MAIL YOUR BUSINESS CARD AND A CHECK [EITHER $10/ONE MONTH OR $60/NINE MONTHS] TO RNA, 232 OGDEN AVENUE, JERSEY CITY, N.J. 07307).

FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

VOTE!
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7th.
Voting places are open from
7 AM to 8 PM.
Exercise Your Right!

Meet your neighbors at the next RNA meeting,
on Tuesday, November 14th at 7:00 PM

RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
232 OGDEN AVENUE
JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY 07307

NON PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
JERSEY CITY, N.J.
07302
PERMIT NO. 153
CAR.-RT. PRESORT

Riverview Neighborhood Association

RNA

Vito Brunetti
Chairperson

Steven Carr
Vice-chairperson

Maria Tuzzo
Secretary

Tim Gilliard
Treasurer

Beth D'Errico
Sergeant at Arms

COMING EVENTS:

11/13: *Look Better, Feel Better* Program, Christ Hospital (see page 4)

11/14: **Monthly RNA Meeting**, Starts at 7:00 PM
Harbor View Health Care Facility, Ogden & Franklin
AGENDA:
- Police
- NID
- Coordination of Holiday Events
- Holland Street Discussion and Vote

11/17: Harbor View Holiday Party (see page 1)

11/17-20: Dumpster Weekend (see page 1)

11/26: Harbor View Holiday Bazaar (see page 6)